

THE CHURCH OF GOD EVANGEL

"And when the day of Pentecost was fully come they were all with one accord in one place." Acts 2:1. "And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost and began to speak with other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance." Acts 2:4.

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SPECIAL HOME MISSION DAY FEB. 8

Miami Members Visit Hadsock

One of the Ripest Fields I Ever Visited. Expecting Great Things From God This Year.

"Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works; shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works. James 2:18.

The above Scripture (latter clause) clearly sets forth the spirit of the Miami church, which is they show their faith by their works. As evidence of this fact we wish to relate the occasion of a friendly visit paid us as pastor by the Miami church, January 7, 1925. It was on this wise.

The members and friends gathered at the church house about 8:00 p. m., and arranged for their service which began by singing the song titled, "Wonderful Words of Life," they marched out of the church on into the parsonage (where the pastor had recently moved) each bearing a gift for the pastor and his family. The singing continued as they found their way into the dining room where they deposited their gift on the dining table, and the table which is usual size was well laden with the things that satisfy the appetites, from a pound of butter to a ban of meat etc. The second song sung was titled "I Shall Trade the Old Cross for a Crown." Prayer was offered, Sister Smithe Smithe then read Psalms 1-3, after which Brother Andrew C. Jenson, Sr., who had charge of the service gave an address of welcome, welcoming the pastor and his family to Miami as pastor of the Church of God. Opportunity was given for others to speak, and many spoke in high appreciation of the faithful efforts of the pastor, pledging their co-operation for the pastoral year.

Many who are not at present members of the church expressed themselves in like manner. The young people rendered a special song. Also Brother Andrew C. Jenson, Jr., rendered a special song. After all had enjoyed a good spiritual service, refreshments were served and to say the least all enjoyed themselves. Afterwards all gathered in the dining room where the pastor and his wife was requested to unwrap the packages that had been brought in. This was real interesting to all present. A prayer of thanks was offered by Brother Jenson, Sr., another song was rendered and the visit was over but the warm spiritual feeling of the visit still lingers near.

We appreciate our little band in Miami. They believe in faith that is not dead, but alive. I must admit that we have the most faithful band of sisters that I ever met anywhere. Of course, we have some faithful men, too, but they are fewer in number than the sisters. I have always contended that God was not pleased with anything short of a faith accompanied with works. "Was not Abraham our Father justified by works, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar?" James 2:21. The thought is this if we say we love God and have faith in Him, our works will be of such to confirm this fact. If we say we love and appreciate our pastor our works will prove that fact. We pay our tithes and contribute as the Lord prospers us. I again wish to express my appreciation of the faithful few we have in

Baptizing in Atlantic Ocean

KEY WEST, Fla.—Things are moving on nicely here at Key West. The Church of God is the most important thing that I know of, and it is on the boom, glory to God. She is outshining anything that I can see on this side of heaven, glory to God.

There is a great lighthouse standing at the head of this isle, with a great revolving light, throwing its light in every direction to guide the storm dazed mariners safely by the rocks and danger points that would sink their ships to rise no more.

So the great Church of God that is established in the top of the mountain, is sending her great streams of light far across the entire creation of our God, and there has never been or ever will be a single storm wrecked mariner that can come up before the judgment bar of God and say he never saw the light, for Jesus declares His church to be the light of the world.

We stated that the little church was on the boom and so it is.

Last Sunday, Jan. 11, we had baptizing in the Atlantic. Three followed the Lord in baptism and two were added to the church.

Many are looking this way, so pray for us that we may not fail to cast the net on the right side. Your humble brother—A. A. Carpenter.

TRUSTING GOD FOR COMPLETE VICTORY

SMITHERS, W. Va.—I want to write this for the benefit of those who trust God for their healing. I have been sick for about three months, was in bed for six weeks, I called for the saints of God to pray for me and this morning finds me able to do my work and I am still trusting God for complete victory. I want all to pray for me, also for my child who is very sick. Oh, the dear Lord has done so much for me and my family I can never praise Him enough. I am in possession of the Holy Ghost this morning and am doing my best for Him who has done so much for me. —Nina Basden.

Many Find Jesus

JUPITER, Fla.—Bessie Franks reports a three weeks' meeting conducted by Bro. G. C. Sapp. The Lord blessed in giving out the Word while His wife and children helped in singing and at the altar.

One was reclaimed, two sanctified, eight converted, five received the Holy Ghost and eight followed the Lord in water baptism and were added to the church.

Miami. We are expecting great things from God this year. We are asking of Him largely.

This is one of the ripest fields for the gospel I ever visited, however, we have the spirit of the fast world to battle against. We have a fine band of young people that is interested in the work of carrying the gospel. Their meetings are of the most spiritual nature. Pastors please don't neglect your young people if you do your church will suffer loss in the future. Give them opportunity to work for the Lord. It seems that time is so short that everyone should be at their very best for God.

With these few remarks we close with good wishes to all churches and their pastors. Work together. Humbly serve the servants in the Lord.—Perry W. Hadsock and wife, 467 N. W. 7th St., Miami, Fla.

Building House of God

We Are Building the House of God, the Greatest Edifice the World Has Ever Seen. Each Stone in the Building Must Be Polished to Reflect the Image of Jesus.

Walter L. Hindmon

"The God of heaven will prosper us; therefore we his servants will arise and build." Neh. 2:20.

We have entered into a new year. We have passed another milepost on our journey to eternity. The past year has gone into history. To some it brought peace, happiness and prosperity while to others it brought troubles, heartaches and poverty. But it is gone and we are yet in the land of the living. We do not know what lies in store for us in the near future, but fully believe that the God of heaven will prosper us.

To his people He is a bountiful supply. Yea, he is all they need. He said, "I am thy shield and reward."

He also said, "I will bless you; I will fight your battles; I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world." Hence the representations He has given of Himself in Holy Writ, are just adapted to the various circumstances and conditions of His saints.

To the poor He is the fulness of supply; to the weak He is their almighty strength; to the ignorant He is a fountain of wisdom and knowledge. Their inability is met by His sufficiency—their guilt by His mercy—their unworthiness by His grace. As soldiers He is the captain of our salvation, as travelers He is our guard and guide, as children He is our Father and God.

In the first Psalm, we read that He will bless those who walk not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stand in the way of sinners, nor sit in the seat of the scornful. But they delight themselves in the law of the Lord and meditate in it day and night. He also tells of the blessings in general that are coming to those that obey. Their leaves shall not wither and whatsoever they do shall prosper. Here we refer to the text: "The God of heaven will prosper us therefore his servants will arise and build."

Some like to be called sons of God, but do not like to be called His servants. He called John the Revelator His servant, Nehemiah called himself His servant. We are sons, but we are also servants. We are laborers and builders, God being our Master builder. A master builder is one who has had experience enough to master his profession. He was in the beginning and by Him were the worlds framed. He made the earth and heavens, the fowls of the air and fish of the sea. He also made man in His own image. He gave Noah plans to build the ark. Later He gave Moses a pattern to go by in building the tabernacle.

He also gave a blue print for that wonderful temple that Solomon built. He, the greatest builder ever known in earth or heaven is now building the Church of God which will outshine anything He has ever built or created. He said, "Upon this rock I will build my church, etc." Paul said, "The foundation is laid." We know that we are to build upon the foundation of the Apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ, Himself, being the chief corner stone. So we His servants will arise and build.

To arise means to rise up; to ascend; to come into view or notice. So long as those Jews sat around allowing their city to go to destruction they were not noticed, but when they arose and began to build they drew the attention of some, very much.

Sanballat and Tobiah got very nervous over the advancement they were making. So will it be as we ascend the walls and begin to build in the great Church of God. We will come into view to this dark and benighted world as a city set on a hill. Already some Sanballats and Tobiah have been attracted and they are becoming more uneasy all the time. They try to get us to compromise, then they try to scare us down, but we have no fear, our God said.

"I am with you alway, even unto the end." When David was giving Solomon charge to build the temple he said, "Be strong and of good courage, fear not nor be dismayed." Paul says, for us to be strong in the Lord and in the power of his might. So we will strengthen our hands and build.

We are building the greatest edifice this world has ever seen or known. We are building the house of God, each of us being a lively stone in this great structure. Realizing this we must make the best of it, for every man's work will be tried as by fire, which will prove whether it is gold, silver, wood, hay or stubble. Only the good material will stand this test. Let every man beware as to what he puts in the building.

He that defiles the temple him will God destroy. This might apply to a minister taking just anything into his church in order to get a big report. One minister may take them in and thereby swell his report, but the next pastor has to go to the trouble of turning them out. We as ministers should be very careful as to what we take into the Church of God, lest He might destroy us for defiling it. We must build the walls to the plumbline. Each stone in the building must be so polished as to reflect the image of Jesus.

Let us draw the Sword of the Spirit, and ascend the walls to build the house of God. This we must do with haste knowing that when it is complete our King is coming. Amen.

THE EVANGEL & REAL BLESSING TO ME

LEE, Fla.—I feel led to write a few words to the paper which I love so well. I sometimes get real anxious for it to come before it reaches me. I am not a member of the Church of God, but truly believe that way. I am the only one in my family that believes in the way, therefore I don't have a good chance to attend services. There is not any Church of God near me, and I have not been to church in over two years.

I don't know what I would do without the dear little Evangel it is a real blessing to me. I covet your prayers that I may do God's will, that I may be able to inherit eternal life, also pray for my loved ones who seem to be gospel hardened.—Mrs. D. R. McClamma.

Lord Blessing Colored People

CIRCLEVILLE, Ohio.—I want to praise God to-day for the only colored Church of God in the state of Ohio, with headquarters at Cleveland, Tenn. I praise Him that He saved, sanctified and filled me with the Holy Ghost. Oh, I praise Him because He has set me in the King's highway of holiness.

I was a Baptist and Brother Moss and wife came to our meeting and was a great blessing to me in bringing the light and leading me out of darkness. Bro. Moss set the church in order, organized a Sunday school and we are getting along fine. We are standing foursquare for the Church of God and praying that God will send us a good pastor.

I praise the Lord for the privilege of taking the Bible Correspondence course, from Cleveland, Tenn. It has been such a help to me. The Lord has called me to preach His Word, and I want your prayers that I may ever stay humble at the feet of Jesus.—Rosella Payne.

HOME MISSIONS

Some time back we run an article in the Evangel about the home mission work, giving the need of this work, also calling attention to the fact that this fund had been neglected.

We have many calls for help, some stating that we have a mission at a certain place, but if we can't get a little help we will have to give it up, others stating, we have a fine prospect for a home mission work at this place and if we can get a little help we will launch it at once.

We have received urgent appeals from Brother C. A. Pond, of Tampa, Florida. He says, "If we can get as much as \$35.00 we can start a work here among the Italian and Spanish speaking people. He also wants to furnish them tracts, but for the lack of finance he is handicapped.

Some think we give all the money we have to spare to foreign mission work, while we know that this is good but we have tens of thousands of foreigners right at our door. In many cities, almost half the population is of the foreign element, in Tampa, Florida, where Brother Pond is they have a large portion of the city to themselves.

This seems to be a great opportunity of doing great good.

Now to our home mission fund again, can't we see what we could do if the church would only keep this going?

If you are interested about Brother Pond's work in Tampa, you may send to the home mission office, money especially designated C. A. Pond, Home Mission Worker.

F. J. LEE, Gen'l Overseer.

HEALING

WALLAND, Tenn.—I want to report victory in my soul this morning, praise the Lord. Bro. Rouse I want to tell you about the handkerchief you prayed over for my sister, she is completely healed and was healed while you were praying over the handkerchief, praise God forever.

Oh, I feel that some one is praying for my husband for he seems to be interested very much here of late. O, I feel that the Lord is going to answer our prayers. I ask that all pray for me that I may have more faith, for I am determined to go all the way with Jesus regardless of the cost.—Mrs. Andy Barbra.

Lord Blessing at Lindale, Georgia

Calls for 7 State Camp Meetings. State Overseers Get Busy. Let's Have a Rousing Time.

I was informed before coming to Lindale that there was some division in the church here, but if there has been any it has all disappeared. Perfect harmony and unity seems to prevail, and the Lord is blessing in a marvelous way. Several have been recently saved and one or two have received the Holy Ghost in the regular services.

The congregations are increasing and there is a wave of conviction on those who are out of the church. Truly it seems like a general revival spirit is on. Yesterday, January 18th, after preaching the eleven o'clock sermon an altar call was given and the altar was quickly filled with seekers. One young man testified to being wonderfully saved, after praying about an hour.

The people asked that the services be continued through the week, so we are in the fight with the enemy. I believe we have the most loyal people here it has ever been my pleasure to work among. The majority are paying tithes and trusting the Lord with their bodies, in fact, every demand of the church is being observed by them.

We have received two new members at Rome on profession this year and expecting two more next Sunday. While Rome is weak in number, there are some good loyal folks there. We are expecting it to come to the front yet.

While I am writing it might be well for me to say a word about the camp meeting work that was passed upon at the last Assembly. We have been appointed overseer of this work by the Executive Council and we are preparing to enter into this work very vigorously in the spring and hope to create a spirit of zeal for this work which we consider one of the most effectual means of evangelizing. First of all we want the co-operation of the state overseers, and unless we get it your state will lag behind in this important work. I will state here for the benefit of South Georgia that two camp meetings have been held at Offerman, Ga., and they are so delighted with the work that they have decided to make it a permanent camp ground.

We already have a nice church building and plenty of ground all paid for and a large tabernacle anticipated. I want to urge the people of south Georgia to get in touch with J. L. Sinclair, Offerman, Ga. Secure you a lot free and build you a cottage, and get ready for this important work. Don't delay but go to work now and be ready for the meeting this fall. Seven camp meetings have been spoken for already. Three of these in South Georgia, where they have been previously held.

I am wondering what is the matter with North Georgia. You are falling behind and I am wondering if you are going to let this opportunity pass again this year. Let North Georgia get busy and let's have a rousing camp meeting this summer. Who wants it? We have one invitation to Florida. How about it Florida? One to Alabama. How about it Brother McLain? Ohio and Kentucky. (Continued on page 2)

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SPECIAL NOTICES

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Address all communications relating to the paper or any of our publications and all drafts, checks, express and postal orders payable to The Church of God.

When you renew your subscription please say "renewal." When you subscribe, please say "new subscription."

INFORMATION—If you change your address you should promptly notify us, giving the old and new address.

Always write names and addresses PLAINLY. If we fail to get your name or address right please notify us and we will take pleasure in making the correction.

Address all freight, express, parcel post, drafts, checks, express and postal orders relating to Orphanage work to The Church of God Orphanage, Cleveland, Tenn.

We will do our best to keep from making mistakes but if we make a mistake we will take pleasure in correcting it if you notify us.

We invite all the workers to send us reports of interest from the battlefield. If nothing else a postal card telling where you are this week.

Help to make the Evangel a medium of information as well as a spiritual blessing.

Entered as second-class mail matter March 1, 1910, at Cleveland, Tennessee, under the act of March 3, 1879.

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A number of churches have made their selection of special solicitors to take subscriptions for the Church of God Evangel and for the sale of BOOKS, BOOKLETS, BIBLES, TESTAMENTS, WALL MOTTOES, PORT FOLIOS, BIBLE CASES, LADIES' HAND BAGS and ART VELVET WALL MOTTOES, CHURCH OF GOD BUTTONS, SUNDAY SCHOOL BUTTONS, and other merchandise handled by the Church of God Publishing House.

This is a very important work, and one that is calculated to prove a blessing to the church and community in which the work is carried on.

Some of the pastors have very kindly consented to act in this capacity, which is very appropriate. As the ministers by virtue of their position as a minister are special representatives of all the interest of each department of the church work, and if this interest could only become general throughout the entire ministry of the church the results would far exceed the expectation of many. We are preparing for full particulars of this system and will soon be able to furnish them on request.

We are delighted to learn that the special interest is being taken in the establishing of state camp meetings. The prospects are good for quite a number to be established this year.

We feel confident that this is a great move in the right direction, as they prove an untold blessing wherever established and have done as much for the success of the church as any other effort put forth.

It would be well for every state to put forth a determined effort to hold a state camp meeting this year.

NOTICES

J. C. Coats, our state overseer has appointed me as district pastor of the eastern district of Missouri, with authority to appoint pastors over the churches.

Any preachers (men or women) being led by the Holy Ghost to come to this part of the state, write me at Desloge, Mo. Let the churches please write me your conditions, needs and desires and I will cooperate with them and will visit each one as soon as possible.

I desire every member of the Church of God in this district to pray for me that I will be humble and submissive to His will and that souls will be saved, sanctified and filled with the Holy Ghost and added to the dear old Church of God.—William Artis, Desloge, Mo.

Anyone who will come to Falmouth, Fla., to preach the true Word of God can rest assured that they will be well cared for. This is a needy place and nothing but a true-blue Church of God preacher is invited. If you are interested write Mrs. H. Hatcher, Live Oak, Fla., Route A, Box 76.

To the Church of God in Georgia, and elsewhere, this is let to notify you that Anna Har-

BIBLE Training School

T. S. PAYNE, Superintendent



We are certainly glad that it has been our privilege to attend the Church of God Bible Training school.

Many of our friends, who do not know of, or understand the merits of such a place of training, would do well to visit our school and see the degree of love, fellowship and power which is manifested between the students and teacher from morning 'till night.

Surely there has never been a time in the history of this world when men have been more hungry for the real Word of truth than they are now.

Not man's opinion, not what you or I may believe, but what the Bible teaches, and how shall we be able to convince this ungodly, gainsaying world except we are prepared.

Our mind is directed at this moment to the Scripture found in Acts 8:30, 31, where a certain man was asked if he understood certain Scripture, which he was reading, the answer was, "How can I, except some man should guide me?" This has been the undoing of many of us. We have read and re-read and yet do not understand, but some will say, "Did not our Lord say the Comforter when He is come shall teach you all things?" Yes, indeed He did but in what manner will He do this? and then also consider that not all of us have as yet received the Holy Ghost. I believe that almost, if not all of us agree on all the great doctrinal themes of the good old Bible, and has it not been said that "Thus saith the Word of God, is, or should be the end of all controversy?" Then suppose we look for a little while at a few Scriptures on this very important subject.

First we will take Moses that great man of God, who was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians and was mighty in words and deeds. Acts 7:22. Surely he could have never been so successful in bringing out the armies of Israel had he not been a learned man. While we would not for a moment try to limit the great power of God, but we do know that God has said, "My people are destroyed for the lack of knowledge." Hosea 4:6.

We also find a time when the sons of the prophets were sitting before Elisha, this is none other than a school of prophets with Elisha as teacher. 2 Kings 4:38.

And again in the 2d chapter and verse 3 it mentions the sons of the prophets. The word son in these Scriptures stands in the place of student, and there are other Scriptures similar to these of which we will not speak, but let us pass on to David's time. Some will say, "Did David teach a school?" Yes, he surely did, that sweet singer of Israel could not be content with being a musician himself but he must teach others also. So we find him organizing a school of both vocal and instrumental music.

Now notice 1 Chron. 25:8, 1 Sam. 19:20, and read of Samuel and his company of prophets and hear the wise hearted Solomon in Prov. 4:5-7 exhorting the people to get wisdom and understanding. Surely this is good.

Seemingly, I can hear a chorus of voices answer back: "Yes, we believe the Bible Training school to be a Bible institution."

We see also that in constructing the Temple that Solomon used only skilled workmen to prepare the material and place it together.

The Temple here is a beautiful type of the great Church of God.

We notice some New Testament Scriptures, so we listen to the great Apostle Paul, hear him as his mighty voice rings out clear and strong in that notable address to the Jews at Jerusalem, "I am verily a man which am a Jew, born in Tarsus, a city in Cilicia, yet brought up in the city at the feet of Gam-

ington is no longer a member of the Church of God. She claims she is yet a member but has been excluded, beware of her.—B. D. Smith, clerk, Columbus, Ga.

To the Church of God in Georgia, and elsewhere, this is let to notify you that Anna Har-

lie, and taught according to the perfect manner of the law of the fathers. Acts 22:3. See also chapter 5:34. Later we find Paul teaching a school at Ephesus in Asia Minor.

Nowhere in the Scripture do we read of Jesus having preached to the people, but many times we read of his teaching or having taught the people and this also accounts for the wonderful success with which his followers carried on his work after He was gone.

True the Sanhedrin Council was said to have perceived that Peter and John were unlearned and ignorant men but say, Brother those men had been in school with Jesus for three and one-half years and had learned more in that time than those priest-ridden Pharisees and hypocrites could ever hope to know. It is a matter of history which tells us how every Jewish son must attend the schools and become a student of the law, and many of them now know more about the Old Testament Scriptures at ten and twelve years of age than some of our preachers (?) ever know.

There is no doubt but what Jesus in His boyhood days attended the school at Nazareth, for while He was Divine and may have known all about the Scriptures yet He was also human and must obey the customs of His day, and now dear friends there are many more just as noteworthy things which could be said on this subject as we have already said, but we think this should be sufficient to convince any unbiased mind or unprejudiced heart.

Now to those who seem to glory in their ignorance, we have only just one text for them found in 1 Cor. 14:38.—T. P. Douglas, Bible student.

I certainly do appreciate the Bible school. I have looked at the boys and girls, men and women, every year as they come to enter school and praised the Lord for their opportunity, and am always glad to see them come to study God's Word, for I realize that we should study it more and more in these last days. If we do anything for God we must have an understanding of the Bible. You may say, "I don't need to go to Bible school, I never intend to preach." It is not only preachers who need to come to the Bible school but every one needs to study the Word of God and learn of Him. I have lived here in Cleveland for a good while and enjoyed seeing the students coming in from every direction and longed from the depths of my heart to be one among the number but it seemed that I never had the opportunity until now.

I have been doing my house work, cooking, washing, ironing and everything for a family of five, and going to school in the afternoon, since Nov. 10, and it is glorious to be there, I enjoy it.

I told one of the boys last week that it was the best place in the world for him to be; it is a good place for any one to be.

I regret that it is closing so soon. We open with prayer in the afternoon and ask the Lord to bless us and He surely does, then when we finish the last lesson we thank Him for His blessings, O, we enjoy the sweet presence of the Lord.

When you begin to think about coming the devil will do everything he can to discourage you and keep you away.

If you are a preacher or want to be, some of your friends (?) will tell you there is no need of going, they say, "you should not waste your time in Bible school.

Just think how many souls will

go down while you are there,

you know enough, and the Lord

will be your teacher any way,

but friends I want to advise you

not to listen to this, just think

how many souls you might lead

wrong, which might be worse.

We need to be able to rightly

divide the whole Word of truth.

The more we study the more

we see there is for us to learn.

Just notice the folks that don't

believe in Bible school; don't be

lie in choir practice and a lot

of other good things we could

do for the advancement of the cause.

I wonder how we could ever sing a song if some one didn't first learn it and teach it to us, all the old songs that we now sing, such as Jesus Lover of My Soul," "In the Sweet Bye and Bye," or any of the beautiful songs we use they were all new to us at one time and we had to practice a few times before we could sing them.

Oh, friends if you are not already saving your money to come next term, begin right now and do your best to be here. You will never regret it but will always rejoice and praise God for the opportunity.—A student, Mrs. D. W. Haworth.

I am praising God this morning for the grand privilege of attending the Bible school. It seems as if the Lord has especially anointed Bro. Payne for this work. The Lord sure does bless us in every effort we put forth to learn more of His precious Word.

At first when my father mentioned to me about coming here, I didn't want to come, but about a week before time to start I read Sister Maggie Free's piece in the Evangel about the school and it enthused me so that I could hardly wait for the time to come when I could get to Cleveland to attend the school.

I have never regretted coming in the least, for I have been blessed all along since I've been here. When I came I was in a backslidden condition but became interested in getting back to the Lord and on Thanksgiving night I gave up and the Lord blessed me and gave me the precious Holy Ghost and I have been feeling good in my soul ever since. Bless His name. If it is the Lord's will I intend to attend the next term of school. I feel that we are here to prepare ourselves for the Master's service.

Let us ask ourselves the question "Do we know as much about His Word as we should?" As for myself will say that I want to do as 2 Tim. commanded, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." It grieves my heart to see the school so near its close but it will not be long until we can gather here again and enjoy being in school once more. —A student, Ruby White.

I am praising God this morning for being in Bible school; for the many things we have learned these few months, and for the many blessings which God has so wonderfully blessed us. Oh, I feel that we can never praise Him enough. Surely God is pleased with the way the Bible has been taught, for we have been so much enlightened on the Word of God, and He has been in our presence so much to honor the work.

Many times while we are praying the Spirit settles down in such a way until there is great joy in our souls, some shout aloud, and I am persuaded that God is ever in our midst.

My advice to any one who expects to go out in the work of the Lord, is to come to the Bible school and equip yourselves for the battle.

Matt. 10:16, says, "Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves."

We meet so many gainers, we should know the Word of God and how to rightly divide it. It is wonderful to be in school but the school will soon come to a close and we will go to our different places of work to spread the glad news of salvation to lost men and women.

We are expecting a large number in school next term. If you begin now to get ready for the next term, I'm sure you will not regret it.—A student, W. F. Sharp.

I have had the pleasure of attending the Bible school for several afternoons. It is wonderful how the Lord is blessing and helping the students to understand the Word, Bro. Payne is certainly a splendid teacher.

They are the most studious bunch I ever met.

How my heart goes out to the many thousands that need this training. Every church should see that their young ministers attend the Bible school.

Tuition and board is the cheapest of any place I know of.

Bro. Lee's lecture to the school once a week is soul food to the hungry.

Since moving to Cleveland to pastor the church, I have found the body of saints at Cleveland the purest, most devoted body of saints I ever met. It is a real delight to associate with these dear people. I have decided that if I have the pleasure of staying in Cleveland another year, my daughters, wife and I will attend the Bible school. Bro. Payne has surely struck his talent. They have had the best order and the least confusion of any school up to this time. The Lord is blessing here on every line, and we are looking forward to greater things. We earnestly request prayer that the Lord will make Headquarters everything it ought to be.—S. W. Latimer.

I am praising God this morning for the grand privilege of attending the Bible school. It seems as if the Lord has especially anointed Bro. Payne for this work. The Lord sure does bless us in every effort we put forth to learn more of His precious Word.

At first when my father mentioned to me about coming here, I didn't want to come, but about a week before time to start I read Sister Maggie Free's piece in the Evangel about the school and it enthused me so that I could hardly wait for the time to come when I could get to Cleveland to attend the school.

I have never regretted coming in the least, for I have been blessed all along since I've been here. When I came I was in a backslidden condition but became interested in getting back to the Lord and on Thanksgiving night I gave up and the Lord blessed me and gave me the precious Holy Ghost and I have been feeling good in my soul ever since. Bless His name. If it is the Lord's will I intend to attend the next term of school. I feel that we are here to prepare ourselves for the Master's service.

Immediately after the Assembly we started to Texas with Bro. Johnson, but I kept hearing the Bible school ringing in my ears, also I got sick and told the Lord if He would heal me, I would come back to school, so I was healed and at this time was in North Florida but began to make preparations to come. O, how glad we were to get here, and the school is good too, I just can't begin to tell how anxious I was to get here.

As we traveled through Florida last year, we boys would often speak of getting back to school to learn some more of the Word, so we may be more efficient workers for God. The people were so good to us where we went while traveling, surely we appreciate it and we haven't forgotten you. Now we are in school and will try to see you again, when school is out.—J. M. Baldwin and wife.

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PRAYER ROOM

F. J. Lee

<p

Pastor--Church

C. M. Padgett.

Literally a shepherd; figuratively a stated minister appointed to watch over and instruct a congregation.

The mayor of a town, the governor of a state and the president of the United States have a responsibility resting upon their shoulders, according to the prominence of their position.

The words of the great set in motion, important movements of a nation, or millions of souls.

But of all responsible places I believe that the pastor of a church has the most responsibility, and in one sense of the word, the most important place to fill this side of heaven.

What would the world do without the church? Jesus said, "a city set on a hill cannot be hid." The church is a city set on a high hill which cannot be hid. Nations rise and fall with sometimes hardly a stone to mark that they were once in existence, but the Church of God is a system whose government is to reach out into eternity. Each state is a little state government or kingdom of its own, with its ruler, bishop, (overseer) or pastor.

Here are souls nurtured, trained and fed who are to shine as the stars in the world to come. A star in society or on the stage shines a few years and then fades from view. A president shines for four or eight years and then is almost forgotten, even on the pages of history, but the light of the church will shine forever.

Teachers, deacons, evangelists have their places to fill but of all peculiar, perplexing, trying and responsible places, the pastor does or should feel it. It reminds us of the wife and mother of a home.

The husband may know of but one calling, perhaps shoeing horses, or handling goods but the first class wife and mother at home must be a carpenter for there is a nail to drive here and something to fix there, a painter, a teacher, and a mind reader; look at the children crawling around her, she is a first class philosopher; trials must be worked out; she is a lawyer and judge; besides being a cook; home business manager, economist or what not.

So with the pastor he should know a little of this and a little of that. It is said, "Jack of all trades and master of none." I suppose the reason so many of us make a failure as a pastor is because our brains are not large enough to master all. No one can make a success without putting his attention to one thing.

Sunlight focused through lens and brought to a point, brings fire.

Concentration on one point burns through. A pastor is not supposed to master but one occupation and that is to be a pastor of his church.

Scattered forces do not hit hard. Paul said, "this one thing I do." Therefore to be a true pastor you cannot be a merchant, farmer, blacksmith, painter, carpenter, too. Others may make a success at such but you cannot. The pastor should know a little about law.

He may be called on to help build a church, he is not able to have his shoe half soled and at once he turns cobbler; strife rises among some of the members and he is supposed to readjust it; he must become all things, to all men that he may win some, but again, he must not leave the Word of God to serve tables. To be a successful minister he should concentrate on the Word, preaching and prayer.

He is representative of his church and congregation, before God Almighty.

He must feed them and lead them out. He is to be the star, the angel, the representative, the messenger of God to his flock. He must carry the lambs and feed the sheep. He is teacher, preacher and adviser.

The Lord's Prayer.

"Our Father who art in heaven" To thee we now come; How oft we have striven, Now we trust thee only Son.

"Hallowed be thy name." Glory be to God on high! Let earthly splendor wane,

AFFLICTED MANY YEARS, TWO OPERATIONS—HEALED

CHARLOTTE, N. C.—On this glad Christmas day, I write this that the Lord has saved, sanctified and filled me with the precious Holy Ghost and I can feel the fire burning in my soul, thank God. I was afflicted for many years, tried all medical aid and was operated on twice but nothing seemed to cure me, until I found that God could heal and I began to have faith in Him. I went to Belmont, N. C., where Bro. Hopkins was holding a meeting and had him and the saints to pray for me and anoint with oil and the Lord wonderfully healed me, and I am still healed this morning. I was spending a dollar a week for medicine when I was healed and haven't taken a drop since. I am a member of the Church of God and ask that all pray for me to stand true.—Maggie L. Freeman.

The Hypocrite's Testimony

I am not a soldier of the cross, Or follower of the lamb; I try to hide my crimes from men, So they won't know what I am.

Let me be carried to the skies, On flowered beds of ease; Let others fight to win the prize, While I do as I please.

If there are no foes to face, I sure will stem the flood; I love to walk the easy way, While others wade the mud.

Oh, let them fight, and let me reign, I have no courage Lord, If they bear the toll and endure pain, Thy Word I will try to dodge.

They saints in all this glorious war, Shall conquer though they die; They see the triumph from afar, While I their works deny.

When the illustrious day shall rise, And all thine army shine; Eternal misery, pain and woe, Forever shall be mine.

—Revealed to Mrs. E. L. Crow, Elizabeth, Tenn.

Standing on the Solid Rock

LAKELAND, Fla.—I praise the Lord that I am still standing on the solid rock Christ Jesus. I am delighted with this grand old highway of holiness, it just suits me fine. Last Monday morning I was sick with severe pains in my body and called on God but it seemed that I could get no better; was unconscious of most everything but knew all the time that Jesus could heal. As they kept praying, I was healed, I promised to testify through the Evangel of healing. I am weak and ask the prayers of all that read this to pray for your humble sister.—Mrs. Addie B. Chance.

But honor to thee brought nigh. Let thy heavenly kingdom come.

Make this world thy home. May all bow to thy Son And no more from thee roam.

Pray let thy will be done, And not our selfishness; 'Till the righteous victory is won.

And the world filled with righteousness.

"In earth as in heaven," All are sanctified there, The two no longer riven But united by Jacob's stair. (Christ).

"Give us our daily bread." That our bodies may be strong; Make us as fatted calves fed With thy halter (Word) lead us along.

"Lead us not into temptation," Deliver from every snare; Purify from contemplation, For sin abounds everywhere.

"Deliver us from all evil" And save from all sin, When the world bursts in up-heavels,

Oh, heaven let me come in.

"For thine is the kingdom"; Tho' Satan so long has ruled; Lord Jesus so quickly come, Too long the world has been fooled.

"For thine is the power." No might can withstand, Thou art able this hour, Make bare thy mighty hand.

"And thine is the glory", All we cast at thy feet. We'll sing the wonderful story, 'Till at thy throne we meet.

Amen. Let it be so. Amen. God the first and last. Amen. He saves from every foe.

Amen. Earthly woe.—History of the past.

DISCOURSE DELIVERED BY F. J. LEE THURSDAY EVENING AT THE BIBLE SCHOOL.

(Number Five)

This big head stands out more prominent of course than the other heads because he will be more prominent, he will be the greatest king of any in existence at that time, the people will wonder after him, the Jews will accept him as their messiah, they will gladly covenant with him.

Not only does this big head represent the man of sin, but the kingdom of which he has the oversight.

The ten horns are ten other kings over kingdoms that shall exist at that time, they shall stand by the anti-Christ to enforce his laws and rules.

Now it is said that this beast was, that is he had existed before that date, the date of which John was in exile.

The Scripture states further that he shall ascend out of the pit. This means, though he once lived upon this earth, but died and went to the pit, he shall return to this earth, then the people shall wonder when they behold the beast that was, before John's day and had come on the scene in the last days. There isn't any doubt in my mind that this old fellow shall come forth from the grave and to be prompted by Satan, he is also referred to as the rod of God's indignation, also in Isaiah 14, we have a description of him, and it plainly states, "Thou art cast out of thy grave." This, of course is weeks of years, therefore it would be 483 years from the going forth of this commandment till Christ was crucified. During that period of time the streets and the wall shall be rebuilt, but will have to be done in troublous times.

We know from the history of the rebuilding of Jerusalem that the builders were greatly hindered and troubled.

The seven weeks refers to the time of rebuilding and after three score and two weeks refers to the time the Messiah was cut off. (crucified).

But not for himself. The margin says, "and shall have nothing." What should He have received? He came preaching "Repent for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." John came preaching the same, the first message of the disciples was the same, "Repent for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

I will now refer to the second Scripture read in your hearing, Daniel 9, beginning with the 20th verse.

We find here that Daniel was in prayer again, this must have been about two years later than the time when he fainted.

Daniel states here that the same angel appeared unto him, he tells Daniel that he has come to give him skill and understanding, then went ahead to explain to him, and told him that "Seventy weeks were determined upon thy people." Here he meant upon the Jews.

Weeks here mean weeks of years. The original rendering has it "seventy sevens." The Jews had weeks of years as well as weeks of days.

In Daniel 10:2, Daniel states I was mourning three full weeks. The marginal reading, from the Hebrew rendering has it weeks of days. Here the Hebrew makes a distinction and specifies weeks of days, showing that the Hebrew recognized weeks of years as well as that of days.

The narration establishes the fact that weeks of years is what the angel had reference to when speaking to Daniel.

Now let us keep in mind that this whole narration is concerning Daniel's people, referred to as "thy people," the Jews. The Jews were in captivity in Babylon, they were not recognized as a nation, neither have they been to this day; it is true that a colony returned to Jerusalem and rebuilt Jerusalem, the walls and the temple, but were subject to a foreign power, they were even at the time of Christ subject to the Roman government, yet they were given some privileges even in governmental and court affairs, but to be recognized as a nation, they have never been since Nebuchadnezzar carried them away to Babylon.

The question then was in Daniel's mind, how long shall such affairs exist with his people, this is what he was praying about so the angel tells him that seventy weeks are determined upon thy people, to finish the transgression, etc.

To finish the transgression. The Jews are yet under the transgression and will be till after the tribulation is over.

To make an end of sins. The Jews will be under sins until the Millennium begins.

To make reconciliation for iniquity. The Jews are going to have to suffer a great deal in the tribulation making reconciliation for their iniquity, they have suffered ever since they were scattered among the nations and will continue to suffer until after the culmination at the tribulation, then they shall enjoy peace in the kingdom of heaven.

Cause the sacrifice to cease.

He will do as Antiochus did, demand that the Jews cease their sacrifice and worship in the temple.

Here the Jews completely turn against him, and wars begin, one nation after another entering until a universal

THE LORD BLESSING MEMPHIS DISTRICT

RIPLEY, Tenn.—We are glad to report victory in our souls through Jesus our Lord.

We arrived at our new field of labor November 20, spent a few days with the saints at Memphis and from there we came to Ripley church, while there the Lord blessed us good.

On leaving the saints at Ripley we went to lend a helping hand to the faithful ones at Kenton. There we found some blessed people, who were real hungry for the Word of God.

We spent several days at this place, the Lord blessing our souls wonderfully. After being with them from the 10th to 18th, Bro. Dillingham from Covington came and preached three sermons for us, which was very much appreciated and enjoyed. On the night of the 18th we revived the church there with nine loyal members and one reclaimed making a total of ten.

The church at Kenton means to be a real Church of God, by making their reports promptly at the end of each month; something they had never done before, since the church has been set in order in 1919.

They are proud to have Bro. Dillingham as a pastor, and love him with a love that is willing to sacrifice to his needs.

Up to date we have visited all the churches on the district that we know anything about, and is our earnest desire and full intention to do our very best for the work this year. We need workers in West Tennessee who are willing to work, for the harvest truly is white and laborers few. To any one who has a desire or feels led to come to the Memphis district to work, we give you a cordial invitation, if you are true blue for the Church of God. We have plenty of the other kind.

The Memphis district includes all between the Tennessee and Mississippi river.

If there are any members anywhere in the above named territory who are not close enough to a church to attend services and want a meeting I would be glad to hear from you.

I am at your service, willing to do my best, you can reach me most any time at Ripley, Tenn. Route 6.—G. G. Williams.

MOUNTAIN REST, S. C.—I want to praise the Lord for the way He blesses me all along this journey of life. I live about 18 miles from any church of God and don't get to go very often.

I have only been a member of the church for a short time, and am trying to live up to all the light I have, though I hope to learn more about its government and rules. Pray for me.

—Mrs. Gladys Winchester.

The old prophetic clock stopped when the Lord was crucified, the pendulum ceased to vibrate and has been still for over 1900 years, but at the fulness of the Gentiles it will start again and run out the remainder of the seventy weeks, which make one week, seven years, known as the tribulation period.

(To be continued).

By Their Fruits

A chaplain in the army during the war was passing over the field when he saw a soldier who had been wounded lying upon the ground. He happened to have his Bible under his arm, and he stooped down and said to the man, "Would you like me to read you something that is in the Bible?"

The wounded man said, "I'm so thirsty, I would rather have a drink of water."

The chaplain hurried off, and as quickly as possible brought the water. After the man had drunk the water, he said: "Could you lift my head and put something under it?"

The chaplain removed his light overcoat, rolled it up, and tenderly lifting the head, put it as a pillow for the tired head to rest on.

"Now," said the man, "if I had something over me. I am so cold."

There was only one thing the chaplain could do, and that was to take his coat off and cover the man. As he did so, the wounded man looked up into his face, and said: "For God's sake, if there is anything in that book that makes a man do for another what you have done for me, let me hear it."

There is a world of meaning, to my mind, in this incident. The need of today is, acting the object-lessons the book teaches.—Selected.

Many Hearts Made to Rejoice

HELENA, Ark.—Bro. T. A. Sears, one of our noted evangelists, who resides at Cherry Valley, Arkansas, while visiting the writer at Helena, held a series of meetings for the duration of three weeks.

Notwithstanding, the church is not yet organized, but the outlook for the future is good. Bro. Sears preached with the guidance of the Holy Spirit and one received the Holy Ghost.

Many hearts were made to rejoice as he gave out the Word.

The attendance was small but the path that leads to glory is narrow, and few there be who travel therein, but where two or three assemble in God's name all agreeing upon one thing, the heavenly Father will be there in the midst, and there is much rejoicing over every one that returns unto the Lord. We thank God for this holy way and that we have the Spirit dwelling within to guide.—D. S. Broadnax.

Timely Themes

By T. S. PAYNE

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Lord Blessing in Arkansas

As I haven't reported in some time, thought to send in a report from the state of Arkansas, where I have been with my two sons picking cotton, and have been preaching, when I could find a place to preach, and a crowd to preach to. I found some good material in Arkansas. I met some of my brothers and sisters that I had never seen. I met Bro. Ledford, the pastor of Tyronza, Lepanto, and Nettleton churches. I sure did enjoy being with Bro. Ledford; the sweet fellowship, love and generosity rendered me through his pleasant smiles and acts of courtesy will be remembered by me until I have gone to be with Jesus, and the redeemed of God, the white robed saints, the angelic hosts and walk the streets of gold. God bless Bro. Ledford.

I went with him from Tyronza to Lepanto, there we found an anxious, eager crowd waiting in the home of Bro. Rite. Bro. Ledford preached an interesting sermon and left me with the little flock. I preached Sunday and Sunday night in spite of the rainy weather. The crowd was small but the power of the Lord fell and the saints rejoiced. The rain continued to fall so the crowd had to stay all night. Here I met some of my Pentecostal brothers and sisters who used to worship with me in the Pentecostal church. I was glad to learn that they too, had accepted the true light on the Church of God.

How it makes my heart rejoice to know that there are people that are really looking for the Bible church, and when they have found it will come to its sheltering protection, and disciplinary government, backed up by the Word of God. I was in this surrounding vicinity about four months, and preached most every Saturday night, Sunday and Sunday night while there.

At this place I found some good people who were filled with every conceivable deception, and delusive doctrine that was possible to be hatched by the Satanic teachings of the devil and his agents. We held a series of meetings while we were there and on Sunday two of the Pentecostal sisters came into the Church of God and some of the saints that were left from the division at the Truman church when Pinkley made his raid on the church, united with the little band, known as the Shady Grove church near Lepanto, Ark. I sure did enjoy the sweet fellowship, generosity, hospitality and courtesy of the saints in this vicinity.

If judgment is used in dealing with them, there are others in this vicinity that will accept the truth, and come into the church.

The people asked me to pastor the church for the ensuing year, but since I belong in the state of Missouri, and wanted to see Bro. Coats, the state overseer, I did not accept the offer, they asked me to come back in the summer and hold them a meeting, which I hope to do. I am back at home now and have no appointment yet as I have not met the state overseer.

If there is a church anywhere that is in need of a pastor or some one to preach for them and will let me know it, and send me my fare, I will go and preach for them as an evangelist or pastor.

All the saints who read this please pray for me that God will have His way in my heart and life, and that I will stay in the center of God's will, and be a soul winner for Jesus, and that God will get glory out of my life. Yours for the Master and His church.—John H. Jones, Box 445, Fredericktown, Mo.

Weak Eyes Strengthened.

TARPO SPRINGS, Fla.—Extract from a letter from Sister Goodson to a sister at Union, Miss.:

I applied the cloth to my eyes which you anointed when you prayed for my eyes to be strengthened, and while I was praying and holding the cloth on my eyes the anointing oil fell cold to my eyes.

They are much stronger now than they were before, for which I truly praise God.

Pentecostal Experience

On the Day of Pentecost In An Upper Room at Jerusalem About 120 Are Filled With the Holy Ghost.

John C. Jernigan

After His death and resurrection He appeared to His followers for probably about eleven times, and His last appearance He led them out to Bethany, where He probably gave them the signs that would follow believers as recorded in Mark 16: 17, 18. "And these signs shall follow them that believe; in my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; they shall take up serpents; and if they shall drink any deadly thing it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover."

I want to call the reader's attention to the fact that one of the signs that are to follow the believers (not only apostles) is to speak in new tongues, so if possible before, they had failed to understand that they were to speak in new tongues when the Holy Ghost was come, they surely understood very distinctly here.

Jesus had now finished His stay on this old earth, and it was time for Him to go back to His Father, and send the Comforter for He had said, "It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send Him unto you." John 16:7.

Since it has now become necessary for Him to depart, and the Holy Ghost to come into the world to finish his mission, He said, "Behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high." Luke 24:49. And he led them out as far as to Bethany, and he lifted up his hands, and blessed them. And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven. And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy: and were continually in the temple praising and blessing God." Luke 24:50-53.

I will give no comments on this Scripture for it explains itself but will proceed with the same author to his acts of the apostles on the same subject, "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stod by them, in white apparel; which also said, ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus which is taken up from you into heaven, shall come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven. Then returned they unto Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is from Jerusalem a sabbath day's journey.

And when they were come in, they went up into an upper room, where abode both Peter, and James, and John, and Andrew, Philip, and Thomas, Bartholomew, and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon Zeolotes and Judas the brother of James.

These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren.

And in those days Peter stood up in the midst of the disciples, and said, (the number of names together were about an hundred and twenty). Acts 1:8-15.

When these holy men and women reached Jerusalem they did not scatter over the city seeking worldly pleasures but went up into an upper room in the temple and were continually praying, praising and blessing God, tarrying for the Holy Ghost that Jesus had been telling them they should receive after He had gone back to His Father.

He was now gone and the instructions He had given them was to wait at Jerusalem for the promise of the Father and not depart until they had received Him. These pure and holy men who had walked and talked with the Lord and returned from Bethany to Jerusalem with great joy, did not say like many of to-day would, "we have already got the Holy Ghost, we received Him at regeneration," but they tarried before the Lord day after day, until they spoke in other tongues as they had been taught they would do when He comes.

"And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord and in one place, and suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.

And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance." Acts 2:1-4.

These people had been tarrying for more than a week when they were visited with this mighty rush of power, and they all (one hundred and twenty) were filled with the Holy Ghost fulfilling the promises of Jesus, where He said, "He shall be in you," and said that we should speak with new tongues. As Pentecost is one of the Jewish feasts there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews devout men out of every nation, and when this was noised abroad the news spread like wild fire, and a great multitude of the Jews rushed out to see the sight and they were confounded because that every man heard them speak in his own language, and they were all amazed, saying one to another, behold are not all these which speak Galileans?

There are many to-day who want to down the Pentecostal experience and will try to make it appear that those who had received the Holy Ghost were people of many, and foreign nations, but were not, for the people that were so amazed were the ones that were of many nations, and what so surprised and amazed them was the unlearned Galileans speaking in their own tongue, wherein they were born.

These people who were speaking in other tongues were those who had come to Jerusalem to attend the feast of Pentecost, they were the Parthians, and Medes, and Elamites, and the dwellers in Mesopotamia, and in Judea, and Cappadocia, in Pontus, and Asia, Phrygia, and Pamphylia, in Egypt, and in the parts of Libya, about Cyrene, and strangers of Rome, Jews and Proselytes, Cretes and Arabians; these the Galileans heard speaking in their own tongue the wonderful works of God, and they were greatly astonished, and were in doubt, and said one to another, what does this mean? While there were others of the crowd mocking, and accusing them of being drunk on new wine, "But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken unto my words. For these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day, but this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; and it shall come to pass in the last days saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams; and on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy."

And Peter continues his sermon by telling of how Jesus of Nazareth had been approved of God among the people by

miracles, wonders and signs and how he had been unjustly slain and had arose from the dead, and was at the right hand of God exalted and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this which ye now see and hear. And when the Jews had heard that forcible sermon it went to some of their hearts like a dagger, and they were convinced and convicted of their sins, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? And when Peter undertook to answer their question, he like John the Baptist and Jesus at the beginning of their ministry told them to repent, and be baptized for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. "For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call." Acts 2:39.

Some folks claim that the Pentecostal folks do not believe in repentance but we do, for it is the first step toward the Pentecostal experience. John the Baptist and Jesus both first preached repentance, and told of the baptism of the Holy Ghost; and after their followers received the experience the first thing that they told the people to do was to repent, and the first that we tell sinners to do is to repent, and get rid of their sins and then they can receive the Holy Ghost; for the promise is as Peter said to all, even as many as the Lord will call to repentance, this Pentecostal experience is not for sinners for Jesus said, "The world cannot receive it because it seeth him not; neither knoweth him," for he said to those that had repented and had gotten rid of their sins, "ye know him, for he dwelleth in you and shall be in you."

There is not one place in the Bible where any one can even twist the Scripture and make it appear that some one receives the Holy Ghost at conversion, but at every place where the Bible said they received the Holy Ghost they were already serving the Lord.

When Peter had fully explained the plan of salvation to the mixed multitude from the many islands and nations of the earth, some of them gladly received the Word and there were added unto them the same day about three thousand souls, and I can imagine when they began to return home they had strange news to tell; the mockers of course told about how a drunken crowd of cranks acted at Jerusalem and deceived many, while others who received the experience thought it grand and returned to their home with the good news of the wonderful Pentecostal experience.

There were many wonders and signs done by the apostles at Jerusalem and the saints continued daily with one accord in the temple, "and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved."

What a glorious time it must have been, and surely they were reminded of the 133 Psalm, "Behold, how good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments; as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion for there the Lord commanded the blessing, even life forevermore."

This rejoicing continued for about five years amidst a few persecutions, such as beating and imprisoning some of the apostles, but no martyrs until that mob cast Stephen out of the city and stoned him to death, and from that time Saul who was afterwards called Paul, made havoc of the church, entering into every house, and hailing men and women, and committing them to prison.

And because of the rapid growth of the persecutions the saints were scattered abroad, and went everywhere preaching the Word. As recorded in the 8th chapter of Acts, Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them. "And the people with one accord, gave heed unto those things which Philip spake,

hearing and seeing the miracles which he did." Verse 5, 6.

And in the 12th verse, "But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized both men and women." "And there was great joy in that city." verse 8.

From the reading of the above Scripture there was great demonstration of the power of God manifested in the city of Samaria, devils were cast out, the sick were healed, and many souls believed in Christ and were saved, and they had great joy in that city. Great joy always follows revivals and they certainly had a great one in Samaria, but none of them had received the Holy Ghost, but inasmuch as they found the Lord and made peace with Him, and the joys of heaven were in their soul; they were baptized both men and women, and the good news of their peace with God soon reached the apostles which were still at Jerusalem and of course the apostles rejoiced to hear of the salvation of the Samaritans, although they were not satisfied because they had not received the Holy Ghost.

"Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the Word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John: who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost; for as yet He was fallen upon none of them, only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost." Acts 8:14, 15, 16, 17.

It seems that it is hard for the people of this day to understand receiving the Holy Ghost apart from conversion, and a great many of the denominations teaches that any one gets it altogether when they get saved, but this doctrine is absolutely contrary to the experience of the Samaritans, it is very plain and easy to be understood that Philip first went to their city and preached Christ unto them, and they believed his preaching, and accepted the salvation of the Lord Jesus and were baptized both men and women in His name.

And when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that the Samaritans had accepted Christ, they sent Peter and John down there that they might enjoy the fullness of salvation, and when the apostles arrived in their city they had a prayer meeting and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Ghost, and as they prayed they received the Pentecostal experience, which was a blessing separate, and apart from the blessing of conversion that they had received before they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

Up to this time only the Jews were enjoying the Pentecostal experience, but as Christ had come to show light unto the Gentiles he began to work with one Cornelius at Caesarea as recorded in Acts 10. Cornelius was a good man and feared the Lord with all his house, and gave much alms to the people, and spent much time in prayer, so one day while he was praying, God showed him in a vision to send for Peter which he did, and about the same time God had showed Peter to go and not any longer call the Gentiles common or unclean, and as Peter arrived at Cornelius' home he found that he had called in his kinsmen and near friends to

hear the truth, and after Cornelius had related his vision, Peter opened his mouth and began to preach Christ unto them and while he was preaching there was something very strange happened to the Gentiles. "While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word. And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost. For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter, Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we?" Acts 10:44-47.

In the eleventh chapter as Peter is telling the apostles and brethren in Judea about the outpouring of the Spirit on the Gentiles at Caesarea he tells of six brethren that were with him. These six brethren are those referred to, in the above Scripture as the circumcision which were astonished when the Holy Ghost was poured out on the Gentiles, for they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God.

We will notice here a sign manifested by which the six Jews and Peter also knew that they had received the Holy Ghost, for they heard them speak with tongues, this agreeing with what Jesus had told his disciples about signs following believers, "They shall speak with new tongues." Mark 16:17. Since speaking in tongues in the apostolic days was a sign of the indwelling of the Holy Ghost, and a sure evidence to others that one had received Him, it would also be an evidence to-day of the abiding Comforter for we know by our experience when one receives Him, for we hear them speak in tongues, and magnify God. Some might argue that the experience received by the Gentiles at Caesarea was different to that received by the Jews at Jerusalem, but it was not, for as Peter was telling the other apostles and brethren about it, he said, "And as I began to speak, the Holy Ghost fell on them, as on us at the beginning."

And he said to the six brethren at the house of Cornelius, "Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we?" verse 47. So the Pentecostal experience was not only for the one hundred and twenty, or even the Gentiles also, and even to us, for as Peter told the people at Jerusalem, it was for them that was afar off, so we are afar off and are receiving the Pentecostal experience as they did in the days of old.

(To be continued).

Strive to Enter the Gate

COVINGTON, La.—I am praising God this morning for salvation that makes me feel good in my soul. I am praising Him for saving, sanctifying and filling me with the Holy Ghost. Jesus tells us to strive to enter in at the gate: for many will seek to enter in and shall not be able. I mean to strive to enter in, I want to be an instrument in the Lord's hands. Pray for me that I will be one among the number that will hear the words of Jesus, "come ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world." Iddo Sharpe.

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